Indian Tribal Co-operative Marketing Circle, Gujarat

3365. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the activities of the Indian Tribal Co-operative Marketing Circle in Gujarat during the last two years and those proposed for the current year; and

(b) the extent to which it has helped the tribal population of the State?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) There is no such organization named as "Indian Tribal Co-operative Marketing Circle" functioning under this Ministry. However, Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED), an apex level Cooperative Society has been functioning under this Ministry since 1987.

TRIFED has undertaken Social Intervention through baseline survey and mobilization of Artisans in Vadodara, Narmada, Navsari and Dang Districts of Gujarat during the year 2003-04. A total number of 652 artisans have been mobilized into 51 Self Help Groups. Training has also been imparted to the tribals of Navsari district of Gujarat to operate non-electrical machines for converting Sal, Siali and other forest grown leaves into moulded plates and cups which have a ready market. TRIFED has also undertaken Leadership Development Training for the Self Help Group leaders and animators in collaboration with Regional Institute of Cooperative Management, Gandhinagar which was preceded by Orientation Workshops held in Tejgarh and Vansda during September 2004. TRIFED has submitted a proposal to the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) for sanction of "Technological Intervention" in the same Districts where artisans have been mobilized into Self Help Groups.

Package for tribals of forest areas

†3366. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any scheme to grant benefit of rehabilitation package to the tribes in the forest regions of various States;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the States where such tribals would be benefited; and

(c) the details of the amount allocated under this scheme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (c) The Government is not considering any scheme specifically to grant benefit of rehabilitation package to the tribal people in the forest regions of various States. However, the National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation for Project Affected Families—2003 notified by the Ministry of Rural Development on 17.2.2004 is applicable throughout the country and in case of displacement envisages the resettlement and rehabilitation of affected families, including tribal people in the forest regions of various States.

Recognition to traditional rights of forest dwelling tribes

3367. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to give legal recognition to the traditional rights of the forest dwelling tribes and to provide long term incetives to the tribal population to conserve forest;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken to implement the above proposal as on date, State-wise;

(c) the number of such forest dwelling tribes who have been benefited or to be benefited as a result thereof as on date, State-wise; and

(d) the details of the legal recognition given to the traditional rights of the tribes during the last three years, year-wise, State-wise and category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KYNDIAH) : (a) to (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been mandated to formulate a Scheduled Tribes (Recognition of Forest Rights) Bill to redress the historical injustice done to tribal communities and for clear assertion of their legal forest rights. The matter has been processed as per the procedure laid down for the purpose.

(c) The number of forest dwelling tribes who may be benefited as a result of the proposed Bill cannot be indicated at this stage.